

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

Enclosed herewith is a Replacement Sheet depicting FIG. 4, which has been amended to correct a typographical error in block S65. Block S65 should read "Determines final similarity using M and L face images."

REMARKS

Claims 1-38 are pending. Portions of the specification and FIG. 4 have been amended to correct typographical errors contained therein. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application in response to the non-final Office Action.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication that claims 9, 18, 28 and 38 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Based on at least the arguments presented herein, Applicants believe claims 9, 18, 28 and 38 are allowable in their present form and have therefore elected not to rewrite claims 9, 18, 28 and 38 in independent form at this time

Claim Rejection – 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1 and 19 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as allegedly being anticipated by "An Extension Of The Component-Based LDA Descriptor By The Generalized Discriminant Analysis" to Franc *et al.* ("Franc"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

As indicated upon filing, the present application claims priority to Korean Patent Application Nos. 10-2002-0041406, filed July 15, 2002, and 10-2002-0087920, filed December 31, 2002. Thus, the earliest priority date of the instant application is July 15, 2002. Submitted herewith are certified copies of English-language translations of Korean Patent Application Nos. 10-2002-0041406 and 10-2002-0087920.

On May 6, 2005, Applicants filed an Information Disclosure Statement citing Franc. Franc was cited in a European Search Report, issued for a counterpart foreign application on February 7, 2005. The European Search Report indicates that the earliest date of publication of Franc is July 22, 2002. Thus, because the publication date of Franc (July 22, 2002) is after the earliest priority date of the present application (July 15, 2002), Applicants believe Franc does not qualify as prior art under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) and look forward to the Examiner's determination in this regard. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 1 and 19 under §102(a) be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 10 and 29 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Franc in view of "Generalized Discriminant Analysis Using A Kernel Approach" to Baudat ("Baudat").

Claims 5-8 and 23-27 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Franc in view of "Multiresolution Eigenface Components" to Kouzani *et al.* ("Kouzani").

Claims 14-17 and 33-37 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Franc in view of Baudat, as applied to claims 10 and 29, and further in view of Kouzani.

Claims 2, 3 and 20 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Franc in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0212552 to Liang *et al.* ("Liang").

Claims 11, 12 and 30 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Franc in view of Baudat, as applied to claims 10 and 29, and further in view of Liang.

Claim 4 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Franc in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,199,081 to Saito *et al.* ("Saito"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection. Applicants note that the substance of the rejection pertains only to claim 4 and that the Office addresses claim 21 in a separate rejection.

Claim 13 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Franc in view of Baudat, as applied to claims 10 and 29, and further in view of Saito.

Claim 22 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Franc in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,526,396 to Hiratsuka *et al.* ("Hiratsuka").

Claim 32 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Franc in view of Baudat, as applied to claim 29, and further in view of Hiratsuka.

Claim 21 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Franc in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0055615 to Zhang *et al.* ("Zhang").

Claim 31 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Franc in view of Baudat, as applied to claim 29, and further in view of Zhang.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections of claims 2-8, 10-17, 20-27 and 29-37 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Franc in view of the aforementioned combinations of Baudat, Kouzani, Liang, Saito, Hiratsuka and Zhang. For the same reasons presented with respect to independent claims 1 and 19, Applicants believe Franc does not qualify as prior art under 35 U.S.C. §102(a). Further, because Franc does not appear to qualify as prior art under 35 U.S.C. §102(a), Applicants believe Franc does not qualify as prior art under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) and look forward to the Examiner's determination in this regard. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 2-8, 10-17, 20-27 and 29-37 under §103(a) be withdrawn.

Conclusion

It is believed that this Response and Amendment does not require additional fees. However, if additional fees are required for any reason, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-4800 the necessary amount.

In the event that there are any questions concerning this paper, or the application in general, the Examiner is respectfully urged to telephone Applicants' undersigned representative so that prosecution of the application may be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,

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